

Rakino Ratepayers Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Tuesday 19-Sep-2018 at 18:00

Location: OBC Clubroom, Whakatakataka Bay/Tamaki Drive, Orakei

Present:

Steve McCrone (SMcC)
Rob Everall (RE)
Stephen Thomas (ST)
Rod Inglis (RI)

Apologies:

Barry Bridgwater (BB)
Jude MacLachlan (JM)
Michael van Druten (MvD)
Adrian Townsend

1. Welcome / Apologies / confirm Quorum

Apologies were recorded from BB and MvD.
Quorum confirmed.

2. Past Minutes

- (a) Minutes from the previous Committee Meeting (07-Aug-2018) were circulated prior to this meeting.

Motion: the Minutes should be adopted

Moved by SMcC Seconded RE.

Motion carried and Minutes will be posted to the RRA website.

3. Finances

- a) **Financial Report** – ST summarised the overall position of the Accounts, which have now been moved on to Xero for financial reporting from 2017-8.

There is no prior year data yet entered, this will be considered to enable comparison back to the prior year.

The current state of the Trust monies was raised. JM had advised previously (07-Aug) that she was going to be liaising with John Vague to get up to speed (as a new Trustee) and also confirm the state of the investment.

Action: JM to advise.

RE confirmed that in prior conversations with John Vague, he had clearly signalled that the Trustees would be keen to consider all reasonable applications to make use of the Trust funds as long as there was a solid connection to an initiative(s) to benefit the wider community.

- b) RE confirmed **80** paid-up member households which included several new registrations. It was agreed that RE should again email all those households who had been members within the last two years but not yet renewed their subscription with a 'soft' reminder that now would be a great time to do so, ahead of the AGM, as only paid up Members have voting rights.

ACTION: RE to issue reminder

- c) **Payments and Reimbursements –**

John Mackenzie had contacted RE later the same week to advise that he had been talking to DoC and they felt that there was a valid basis not to levy the annual licence charge at all because of the extensive volunteer efforts on the island on DoC land.

Action: John MacKenzie to advise if DoC was receptive to a refund.

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RE and ST had jointly sanctioned electronic payment of the \$175 annual PO Box Charge for the Association to NZ Post.

4. Correspondence:

See Appendix 1 below.

Actions agreed or carried forward:

See Appendix 1: Correspondence as well as Appendix 2: Action Summary at the back of this document, sorted according to owner.

5. Community Hall

An update is pending from Chris Clews and Sue Plummer on any progress or developments.

6. Strategy Development

SMcC has this in hand in conjunction with Rod's project on the long term Eco Hub concept.

7. Review of Action Summary and Work in Progress:

See Action Summary following (Appendix 2), with individual actions assigned, to be reported as indicated.

8. New Business:

- AGM to be convened on Monday 22nd October at 10:30 – Annual Report and Financial Accounts to be compiled and presented to the Membership for approval. Inputs on the day will also be requested from Hank & Bev (Fire Officer) and John MacKenzie (Environmental Officer).

Action: RE to forward outline Agenda to SMcC

- RI presented some summary slides on his concepts for an 'Eco-Hub for the Inner Hauraki Gulf', which were well received. It is proposed that he presents them to the Membership at the AGM to test community receptiveness for such a proposal, which could be many years in fulfilment and remains a concept at this stage. It is vital to open up a channel for dialogue and ideas / contributions and critique, so this straw man presentation is to actuate and encourage that feedback. It is proposed to use a screen to present the material, and ideally to have the slides mounted on the walls so that they can induce discussion after the meeting.
- SMcC to draft a Newsletter, he will seek contributions from the Committee as required.

9. Next Meeting Dates:

Wednesday 17-Oct-2018 at 18:00 Alaska premises, Freemans Bay

[AGM] Monday 22-Oct-2018, 10:30

Wednesday 21-Nov-2018 at 18:00 (Outboard Boating Club, Tamaki Drive, Orakei)

The meeting closed at 19:35.

NB: Future Committee absences and apologies already notified:
Nil

Meetings default to the third Wednesday each month, unless by prior change, starting promptly at 6:00 pm – please diarise.

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Appendix 1: Correspondence to Secretary - Summary since last meeting (key items only)

11-Aug-2018 : Email with John MacKenzie

John advised that he might be able to get the \$250 paid to DoC (annual Sandy Bay events licence) refunded as a goodwill gesture (based on input to him from staff members).

ACTION: John MacKenzie to advise if successful

12-Aug-2018 : Hauraki Gulf Forum

Kevin Wragge forwarded a reminder about the event on 5th September.

ACTION: Already circulated to Committee

14-Aug-2018 : SeaLink Service

An islander posted concerns about SeaLink cancelling the December service on the Friends of Rakino FB page.

RE wrote to Pierre Trollipe, Terminal Operations Manager for SeaLink (Half moon Bay) and responsible for scheduling, to see if this might be revisited.

Text from RE:

“Rakino is served by Sealink just once a month – usually – and provides an important community service, as there is no other comparable facility readily available.

The normal Sealink barge has been off for a couple of months over the winter period, and word is spreading on the ‘Friends of Rakino’ Facebook page in the last 24 hrs that the December barge sailing will be allegedly cancelled as well in favour of supporting Waiheke summer traffic. Is this fact or merely rumour?

We have numerous islanders engaged in house building projects and the barge is the only viable means of moving large loads of materials to and fro; people are really not happy at all with news of the latest service cancellation, if true. It will squeeze user traffic into sailings in Oct and Nov, and with the limit on capacity on any given day, building projects will stall at one of the prime times of the year to carry out this sort of work.

The Facilitator barge service which handles weekly rubbish collection cannot handle large vehicles and trucks.

Please could you advise of the actual situation and circumstances, and if sailings are being redirected might we politely request reconsideration?

Alternatively, might a second sailing be available for Rakino in November on consecutive days when tides are favourable?

It is a valued community facility, and the service is supported and endorsed on our Association web page. We could work together more effectively: the offer is there for RRA to assist with improved and proactive communication about barge service availability or schedule issues, rather than waiting until people try to

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make bookings and are faced with disappointment and consequent downstream issues with projects and contractors, which are inevitably exacerbated by the nature of the island environment, which is no different in any respect to the needs of Waiheke.

We could also ask for indications of future demand to assist your scheduling team, as you clearly need to operate profitably and there is no merit in running half-empty boats.

Thanks for your consideration and response.”

ACTION: No acknowledgement or reply received – potential to follow up after review within Committee. Website still shows no December sailing (only two months out of five).

RE to follow up

14-Aug-2018 : Funding – Kevin Wragge wrote:

“How do Rob.
Sending to you to pass on to committee.

What funding is the Association seeking this year to avoid duplication of effort?
What are the Association’s objectives that may benefit from funding and is assistance /advice required?

I’m about to embark on this time consuming and frustrating process and don’t want to waste my time if others are seeking similar funding.

My intentions at this stage are to seek funding from EIF for the nursery, a wetlands area and possibly an information centre.

Other potential opportunities are below.....not exhaustive but I assume you have details of all the opportunities.

Kevin Wragge”

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/funding-and-programmes/forestry/planting-one-billion-trees/>

<http://projectcrimson.org.nz/>

<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/mayor-of-auckland/mayor-priorities/protecting-our-environment/Pages/million-trees.aspx>

ACTION: Circulated as requested

14-Aug-2018 : Entertainment

Kevin Wragge shared some details regarding a potential entertainer – wrote to RE and AT jointly.

“Spoke to this chap last night who is very well respected and makes amazing music.

A band member has a yacht and he wondered if the community would be interested in having him play.

I don’t want to be involved in the organization due to familiarity with the Johnny but am happy to pass on his details and help in any negotiations.

Perhaps labour weekend may be an opportunity.

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In recognizing this is Adrian's area of responsibility on the committee, ill leave it to you to get back to me.
Kevin Wragge"

<https://store.cdbaby.com/cd/johnnymatteson3>

<https://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/afternoons/audio/2514924/auckland-story-for-4-april-2012-johnny-matteson>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/72807383/music-saves-mental-health-sufferer>

ACTION: AT to comment

14-Aug-2018 : Storm Water run off

Mark Lockhart wrote to advise of rain run off discharge (road metal) on to his property.
RE referred on to Jodee McKay who confirmed the incident had been logged and action would be taken.

ACTION: Auckland Transport to repair road damage from run off

14-Aug-2018 : Subs reminder

RE issued gentle reminder to all those who had not yet paid 2018-9 subs

ACTION: RE to issue another reminder ahead of the AGM

18-Aug-2018 : Bicycle Trail

Kevin Wragge wrote:

"Mention has been made of a bicycle trail which would involve the consent of the larger block owners.
Could you pass on to the committee and let me know if this concept will be taken up.

<https://trailfund.org.nz/pages/apply-for-a-grant> "

ACTION: RE forwarded to Committee – Jude asked it be placed on future agenda to review as the suggestion was unclear. This was discussed in Jude's absence and the feeling was overwhelmingly that, because bike trails would require substantial incursion over private land, they were unlikely to be feasible due to lack of permissions.

The Committee was unconvinced that eh concept could be workable, but it would nevertheless be referred to Jude to incorporate into her considerations about options for tracks and trails, in case there was some scope to be evaluated.

20-Aug-2018 : Gulf Islands Trust

RE circulated Minutes from the Gulf Island Trust meeting (25-July).

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ACTION: None

03-Sep-2018 : Waste Minimization Fund (several reminders received)

Open for applications until the end of September, for awards up to \$50K.

ACTION: None

03-Sep-2018 : Ecological Restoration Grant

Kevin Wragge wrote:

“To avoid duplication of effort Rob.....what is the Association applying for?
I've applied for funding for the nursery and for the establishment of a wetlands area.
I head to North Korea on Thursday and as such have limited time.
Kevin Wragge”

For info:

Waiheke Ecological Restoration Grant is now open for submissions and will close at **10 pm Friday 28 September 2018**.

Waiheke Local Board have set the following limits for the grant:

- Projects must occur after 17 December 2018
- Minimum amount per grant \$2,000
- Maximum amount per grant \$10,000

ACTION: JM has already met with Agus Castro Pons (Grants Advisor) and established a working dialogue. JM to comment in due course.

04-Sep-2018 : From Kevin Wragge

“Hi Rob.

I'm trying to get funding from Waiheke to simply clear the AT land...both sides of the road, do a bit of planting, set up a few goal posts and keep it maintained.

Shot in the dark but at least it will clear up the area for people to sit and reflect.

Do you have any photographs, topographical maps, area etc which I can include in the application.

I don't want to spend too much time but think it's worth a crack.

Realize it involves your time but someone has to do it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”

ACTION: RE forwarded a couple of references previously used in the Bokashi application.

ST advised the Committee that the application had been knocked back as there was no permission granted from Auckland Transport at this stage.

05-Sep-2018 : Hall Hire

Jason Horan wrote regarding hire of the Community Hall.

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ACTION: Information provided and referred to Bev/Sue for the Hall calendar, once dates known.

14-Sep-2018 : PO Box Charges

Annual PO Box charges to be paid (overdue)

ACTION: Paid electronically – ST/RE. No further action required.

Member Registrations since last update:

80 paid-up households (out of 117 potential = 68%) in this subscription year 2018-9.

This includes some first-time registrations.

Of the balance as yet unpaid, ~30 people paid last year and so will *probably* pay when reminded, taking to total to over 90 households potentially.

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Appendix 2: Overall Action Summary and Work in Progress for monthly reporting and review

Review of Rakino Budget data sourced from AKL Council – this also fits with the formation of a Funding/Grant Sub-Committee.	Committee
Determine future engagement with Gulf Islands Trust – many individuals are on the distribution list already, need to formalise a seat going forward.	Committee
Determine potential relationship with Foundation North and the G.I.F.T. grants ongoing.	Committee
Determine initiatives to increase membership	Committee (ALL)
Review data and progress discussions regarding Community Hall options. Report to RRA Committee.	Community Hall Sub-Committee
Circulate draft social calendar; events for October AGM?? Also to advice on referral by Kevin Wragge (Johnny Matteson)	AT
Investigate grant options for seating at viewpoints (carried forward) plus replacement of Sandy Bay seating (raised at AGM). Also consider island public tracks in reserves which exist (and are mapped) but are not published and thus unknown to most people, and where work may be necessary to improve access, such as off Askew Avenue. Include consideration of bicycle track options. Assemble calendar of annual community funding rounds and points of contact/reference. Consider any projects which might merit funding applications, for further discussion in Committee.	JM / ALL
Develop dialogue with Council Grants Committee (ongoing)	JM
Discuss DOC licence with Chris Clews – renew next year or not?	JM
Liaise with John Vague over Trusteeship and the current state of Trust Funds invested.	JM
Advise if recent Licence payment to DoC might be refunded, based on their feedback?	John Mackenzie
Develop overview of Environmental priorities for Rakino, to include Rhamnus strategy (in conjunction with DOC). Update on alternative funding for Pest Monitoring.	John MacKenzie
Potential for weed and gorse intervention at Wharf?	John Mackenzie
Potential to create an “Idiot’s Guide” version of the Ecological Survey for general circulation to encourage take up. John asked to consider this.	John Mackenzie / Committee
Re-provision Rhamnus poison supplies via DoC, including dispenser (defective) and plastic bottles	John Mackenzie
Follow up SeaLink regarding December sailing and prior cancellations to scheduled monthly services (see Correspondence).	RE
Issue ‘soft’ subs reminder in early October to all those who have paid in recent years but have to renew for 2018-9, ahead of AGM.	RE
Liaise with Alistair regarding possible options for ‘user paid’ inorganic waste removal using the <i>Facilitator</i> barge.	RE

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<p>Escalation of roading and drainage issues to Akl Transport, already instigated privately (see correspondence section appended). A fresh complaint lodged in July (Woody Bay Road) and acknowledged by Akl Transport - but still not repaired.</p> <p>Committee to liaise with Akl Transport's Jodee McKay to follow through and improve working dialogue and exchange.</p>	<p>SMcC</p> <p>RE and SMcC</p>
<p>Call Adrian regarding Social Calendar and proposals</p>	<p>SMcC / AT</p>
<p>Contact Kevin Wragge to discuss recent inputs to the Committee</p>	<p>SMcC</p>
<p>Development of overall strategic plan (inc. items raised in the AGM) and key strategic threads (e.g. Environmental; conservation; weed eradication; etc.) and major focal areas from Survey.</p> <p>Combined with prev. action to Resolve Rakino community participation in Gulf Islands Trust Forum, which is a key component of any way forward for the island in the context of the Hauraki Gulf.</p>	<p>SMcC / Strategy Sub-Committee</p>
<p>Newsletter pending – Committee to contribute as requested by Steve.</p>	<p>SMcC</p>
<p>Investigate to improve participation of RRA in the workings and resources allocated of the Waiheke Local Board.</p> <p>SMcC to discuss initially with Chris Clews on basis of dialogue regarding the Hall to date.</p>	<p>SMcC</p> <p>(CC)</p>
<p>RI and SMcC to liaise over development of presentation on Marine Reserve/Eco Hub proposals.</p>	<p>SMcC and RI</p>
<p>Committee to progress formation of Funding/Grant Sub-Committee to underpin RRA Strategy and improve leverage from available funding sources.</p>	<p>ST / Committee</p>
<p>Action the recommendations of the Financial Reviewer for 2015-6 accounts. Effective from January 2017 – ongoing.</p>	<p>ST / Committee</p>

Committee members are reminded to review and print your own copies of all materials circulated prior to the meeting, forwarding amendments / corrections where necessary in advance to the Secretary, in order to optimize the discussion time available in meetings.